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Governor



JAMES M. Le BLANC
Secretary

State of Louisiana
Department of Public Safety and Corrections

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DOC Recognizes Outstanding Employees for 2007

(Baton Rouge) DPS&C Secretary James M. Le Blanc hosted more than two hundred Corrections Services employees and family members during the Department's annual Memorial Service and Awards Ceremony on Thursday, May 15, 2008.

Many employees were recognized for their outstanding contributions to the Department and to overall public safety in 2007 during the Employee Awards Ceremony.

The Department's **Distinguished Service Award**, which recognizes employees who act courageously to protect life or property during a work-related emergency situation, was presented to:

- **Sgt. Sherrika Bennett, Dixon Correctional Institute**, for maintaining her composure and using her security training after she was attacked by an inmate.

Employees of the Year for 2007 include:

- **Correctional Officer of the Year – Master Sgt. Jimmie Brumfield, Elayn Hunt Correctional Center**
- **Support Employee of the Year – Account Manager Melaine Curry, Prison Enterprises**
- **Non-Security Supervisor of the Year – Health Information Director Kelley Hawkins, Louisiana State Penitentiary**

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- **Security Supervisor of the Year – Bobby Lee, Probation and Parole, Lafayette District**
- **Probation and Parole Officer of the Year – Beth McGee, Lake Charles District**

The Secretary's Award of Excellence, which distinguishes those employees who provide a major benefit to the Department and its overall public safety mission, was awarded to:

- **Captain Clifton Chaney, Dixon Correctional Institute**, who has led the offender work crews at the State Capitol for twenty years.
- **Deputy Warden Helen Travis, Louisiana Correctional Institute for Women**, who leads LCIW's consolidation of services effort with Hunt Correctional Center and who is a pioneer for female security officers in Corrections.
- **Assistant Warden Jolene Constance, C. Paul Phelps Correctional Center**, for her efforts to promote social and literacy programs for successful offender reentry and strengthening family bonds between offenders and children.
- **Gerald Lebo, Rayburn Correctional Center**, for his technical and computer skills that have streamlined reporting requirements and standardized programming for all institutions.
- **Michael Wynne, Alexandria Probation and Parole District**, for his tenacity in pursuing housing and other services for releasing sex offenders in a time when there is so much scrutiny of sex offenders in the community – all the while maintaining public safety.

The Memorial Service included a moving tribute to eight correctional and probation and parole officers killed in the line of duty during the Department's history. Thirty-one (31) employees and/or retired employees who passed away during 2007 were also remembered. Each employee's sacrifice and dedication were marked with a single red rose followed by a remembrance reading.

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